

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Screening methods for identifying compounds that regulate skeletal muscle atrophy or hypertrophy, regulate the activity or expression of the vasoactive intestinal peptide receptors (VPAC) or regulate expression of vasoactive intestinal peptide (VIP) or VIP analogs are provided. Methods for the prophylactic or therapeutic treatment of skeletal muscle atrophy utilizing VPAC as the target for intervention are described.